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IDENTITY, SYNONYMY, HOST AND DISTRIBUTION OF
HEMICHEYLETUS CALCARATA (DOMROW AND BAKER, 1960)
N. COMB. (ACARINA: CHEYLETIDAE)

BY

S. K. NAGAR *

In the year 1948 LAWRENCE described two new species Cheyletiella leturicola and C. curvidens from Galago crassicaudatus and Herpestes sanguineus respectively. In 1954 LAWRENCE assigned both these species to a new genus Hemicheyletus which he created to include cheyletid mites exhibiting sexual dimorphism and palpal modifications for "raptorial purpose in male and pilicolous habit in female".

DOMROW and BAKER (1960) described a new mite under the name Nihelia calcarata n. gen., n. sp., from Herpestes sp. It seems that Domrow and Baker were not aware of Lawrence’s papers, as they do not refer to them at all.

In justification for the creation of the genus Nihelia, Domrow and Baker also mention differences in the host. The description of the mite is not as they would have desired, since the material was inadequate and not in good condition.

NAGAR and SAXENA (1977), unaware of Domrow and Baker’s paper described as new entity, Hemicheyletus herpestesi, a mite, from the Indian mongoose Herpestes edwardsii.

A scrutiny of the two species, N. calcarata and H. herpestesi, both morphologically as well as biologically (host-wise), reveals that the two are synonimic and that the taxon under review is identified as Hemicheyletus calcarata (Domrow and Baker, 1960).

HEMICHEYLETUS CALCARATA (Domrow and Baker, 1960)
Syn. & Lit.


HOST AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Herpestes sp. (Thailand) : Domrow and Baker 1960
Herpestes edwardsii (India) : Nagar and Saxena 1977

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Acarologia, t. XX, fasc. 1, 1978.
Genus *HEMICHEYLETUS* Lawrence

The genus *Hemicheyletus* extends from Natal and Transvaal (South Africa) in the Ethiopian region to India and Thailand in the Oriental region.

Out of the three species, hitherto known *H. curvidens* and *H. calcarata* parasitise mongooses (Carnivora) and *H. lemuricola* parasitises lemurs (Primates).

**Summary**

The species *Nihelia calcarata* Domrow and Baker 1960 and *Hemicheyletus herpestesi* Nagar and Saxena 1977 must be considered synonyne, and under genus *Hemicheyletus* Lawrence 1954 which takes precedence over the genus *Nihelia* Domrow and Baker 1960.

**Résumé**


**References**


*Paru en Janvier 1979.*